

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, The late William L. McKnight was born to pioneer homesteaders on a Brookings County farm near White, South Dakota, on November 11, 1887; and

WHEREAS, After attending a one-room schoolhouse, the high school in White and a Duluth, Minnesota, business school, he took a job in 1907 as assistant bookkeeper with a tiny, struggling sandpaper company in Duluth called Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing (now a multibillion-dollar global company known as 3M and based in St. Paul, Minnesota); and

WHEREAS, Mr. McKnight rose quickly through the ranks of 3M, helped rescue the company from an uncertain future in its early years and retired as chairman of the board with 59 years of service; and

WHEREAS, Drawing from a deeply rooted work ethic and a gentle, precise manner, Mr. McKnight's visionary business philosophies laid a groundwork for 3M's success based on diversified products, consistent quality, decentralized management and the importance of taking risks and making mistakes; and

WHEREAS, The influence of Mr. McKnight lives on through the philanthropic contributions of the McKnight Foundation, St. Paul, Minnesota, to human services, health and medical research, education, the visual and performing arts, conservation and recreation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE S. MICKELSON, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the week of November 8 through 14, 1987, as

WILLIAM L. MCKNIGHT WEEK

in South Dakota, in honor of the 100th anniversary of his birth.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this twenty-third day of October, in the year of our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Seven.

GEORGE S. MICKELSON, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Joyce Hazelvine
JOYCE HAZELVINE
SECRETARY OF STATE